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UNCLAS THE HAGUE 001896

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR S/WCI - SCHEFFER/WARRICK, S/CT -
SHEEHAN/BAIR, S/SA - O'BRIEN, DRL - KOH/SPENCER, L -
ANDREWS/MATHESON, L/EUR - LAHNE, INR/WCAD - DONAHUE/MORIN,
EUR/SCE - COUNTRYMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [PHUM](#) [BK](#) [HR](#) [SR](#) [NL](#) [ICTY](#)

SUBJECT: ICTY: SFOR APPREHENSION OF DUSKO SIKIRICA

REF: A. 99 THE HAGUE 1976

[1](#)B. 99 SARAJEVO 10160

[1](#)1. EARLY IN THE MORNING OF JUNE 25, SFOR FORCES IN BOSNIA DETAINED DUSKO SIKIRICA, A PUBLIC INDICTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA (ICTY). SIKIRICA ARRIVED IN THE HAGUE AT APPROXIMATELY 14:15 ON JUNE 25 AND WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE ICTY'S DETENTION FACILITY IN THE HAGUE.

[1](#)2. SIKIRICA, A BOSNIAN SERB, WAS THE LEAD INDICTEE IN THE 1995 "SIKIRICA AND OTHERS" INDICTMENT, WHICH FOCUSES ON ABUSES OF DETAINEES AT THE KERATERM CAMP NEAR THE TOWN OF PRIJEDOR. SIKIRICA IS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN THE COMMANDER OF THE CAMP. UNDER THE INDICTMENT AS AMENDED IN 1998, HE IS CHARGED WITH COMPLICITY IN GENOCIDE, AS WELL AS WELL AS THIRTEEN ADDITIONAL COUNTS OF CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, GRAVE BREACHES OF THE 1949 GENEVA CONVENTIONS, AND VIOLATIONS OF THE LAWS OR CUSTOMS OF WAR, FOR KILLINGS, TORTURE, SEXUAL ASSAULTS, AND THE UNLAWFUL CONFINEMENT OF CIVILIANS COMMITTED BY HIS SUBORDINATES. FOR MOST CHARGES, SIKIRICA IS CHARGED ON THE BASIS OF HIS SUPERIOR AUTHORITY OVER OTHERS IN THE CAMP. WITH RESPECT TO ONE INCIDENT, HOWEVER, SIKIRICA IS CHARGED BOTH ON THE BASIS OF HIS SUPERIOR AUTHORITY AND AS A DIRECT PARTICIPANT IN THE SUMMARY EXECUTION OF TWENTY KERATERM DETAINEES AS PUNISHMENT FOR THE ESCAPE OF SIX OTHER DETAINEES.

[1](#)3. SIKIRICA WAS ONE OF EIGHT INDIVIDUALS NAMED IN THE AMENDED "SIKIRICA AND OTHERS" INDICTMENT. ONE OF SIKIRICA'S CO-INDICTEES UNDER THAT INDICTMENT, ZORAN ZIGIC, IS BEING TRIED IN THE "KVOCKA AND OTHERS" CASE WITH FOUR OTHER INDICTEES (MIROSLAV KVOCKA, MLADO RADIC, MILOJICA KOS, AND DARGOLJUB PRACAC). THAT TRIAL CENTERS MAINLY ON EVENTS AT THE OMARSKA DETENTION CAMP. TWO OF SIKIRICA'S OTHER CO-INDICTEES - DAMIR DOSEN AND DRAGAN KULUNDZIJA - ARE ALREADY IN CUSTODY IN THE HAGUE (REFTELS) AND ARE AWAITING TRIAL UNDER A FURTHER AMENDED INDICTMENT. THE DOSEN/KULUNDZIJA CASE IS LIKELY TO COMMENCE SOMETIME THIS FALL. THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR (OTP) EXPECTS TO FILE A MOTION SEEKING TO JOIN SIKIRICA TO THE DOSEN/KULUNDZIJA CASE. THE FOUR OTHER INDICTEES UNDER THE "SIKIRICA AND OTHERS" INDICTMENT AS AMENDED IN 1998 - DRAGAN FUSTAR, NENAD BANOVIC, PREDRAG BANOVIC, AND DUSAN KNEZEVIC - REMAIN AT LARGE.

TOKOLA